

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Terry A. Todd, et al.

Serial No. : 10/602,654

Confirmation No. : 1041

Filed : June 25, 2003

Title : METHOD OF STRIPPING METALS FROM ORGANIC SOLVENTS

Examiner : James Fiorito

Group Art Unit : 1754



31972

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOE Docket No. : S-99,482

Customer No. : 31972

Response to Restriction/Election Requirement Under 37 CFR 1.143

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's May 16, 2006 Restriction/Election requirement, Applicant elects with traverse to proceed with the examination of Species 1, and states that Claims 1-15 are readable thereon. Where an application includes claims directed to different embodiments or species that could fall within the scope of a generic claim, restriction between the species may be proper if the species are independent or distinct. MPEP 806.04. Claims 1-15 are methods to remove "metals," and are not directed to distinct species of metals. Applicant argues that the method claimed in this application is generic to the removal of different types of metals, and particular types are not claimed in this invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully traverses this restriction requirement. Nevertheless, Applicant elects Species 1 -- drawn to the removal of radioactive metals. Applicant argues that Claims 1-15 are readable on elected Species 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 15, 2006